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IDS w/ 11/10/02
Repts

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Junichi TAKAHASHI, et al.

Appl. No.: 09/628,200

Filed: July 28, 2000

For: OPTICAL HEAD FOR OPTICAL
RECORDING



Art Unit: 2754

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty Docket: IZM-01001

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Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that the foregoing documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents; Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date of July 2, 2002.


Name: Gabriella Fercu

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants and/or their attorney in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.56. Copies of the documents are also being submitted.

The references cited herein were cited in connection with a May 23, 2002 foreign Office Action (copy enclosed) for a counterpart application in the Japanese Patent Office. Since this IDS is being filed within three months of that date, and prior to a final office action or notice of allowance, no fee is due.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most

knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. A copy of the official action is enclosed. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application corresponding to the above-captioned U.S. patent application. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

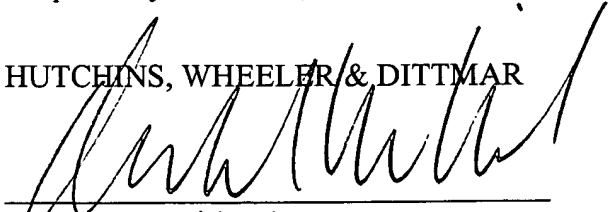
The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the space adjacent to each document on the PTO-1449 form and return a copy of the PTO-1449 form to confirm that these documents have been considered by the Examiner and made of record in this application.

Although we believe that we have appropriately provided for any fees due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any deficiencies to/from our **Deposit Account No. 501136**. Two originally-executed copies of this form are being submitted.

Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 951-6676.

Respectfully submitted,

HUTCHINS, WHEELER & DITTMAR


Donald W. Muirhead
Registration No. 33,978

July 2, 2002

Date

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Regarding Reason 1

- Claims 1 through 4 and 6
- Cited References 1 through 4
- Remarks:

Obtaining a tracking error signal by receiving a beam divided by the hologram element that has at least one dividing line is a universally known matter as described, for example, in Cited Reference 1 (see paragraphs 0063 through 0067 and Figure 16, etc.).

With regard to Claim 2, furthermore, "constructing a laser light source, a photodetector, a hologram element, and a prism optical element as an integral unit" is universally known (for instance, see Cited Reference 2 (Figure 3, etc.), Cited Reference 3 (paragraph 0004 and Figure 2, etc.) and Cited Reference 4 (Figure 1, etc.)); and is a matter that could be appropriately adopted by a person skilled in the art.

With regard to Claim 3, the use of a polarizing hologram element in order to improve the beam utilization efficiency or the like is universally known, and is a matter that could be appropriately adopted by a person skilled in the art.

[Text omitted – Translator]

Table of Cited References, etc.

1. Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H09-044921
2. Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H11-025465
3. Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H10-255318
4. Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H10-208284

Record of Results of Survey of Prior Art References

- Field Surveyed: IPC 7th Edition G 11 B 7/09 – 7/10
- Prior Art References: Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. S62-277640
Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. S62-172538
Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H11-045451
Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. H08-287499

This record of the results of a survey of prior art references does not constitute any reason for rejection.